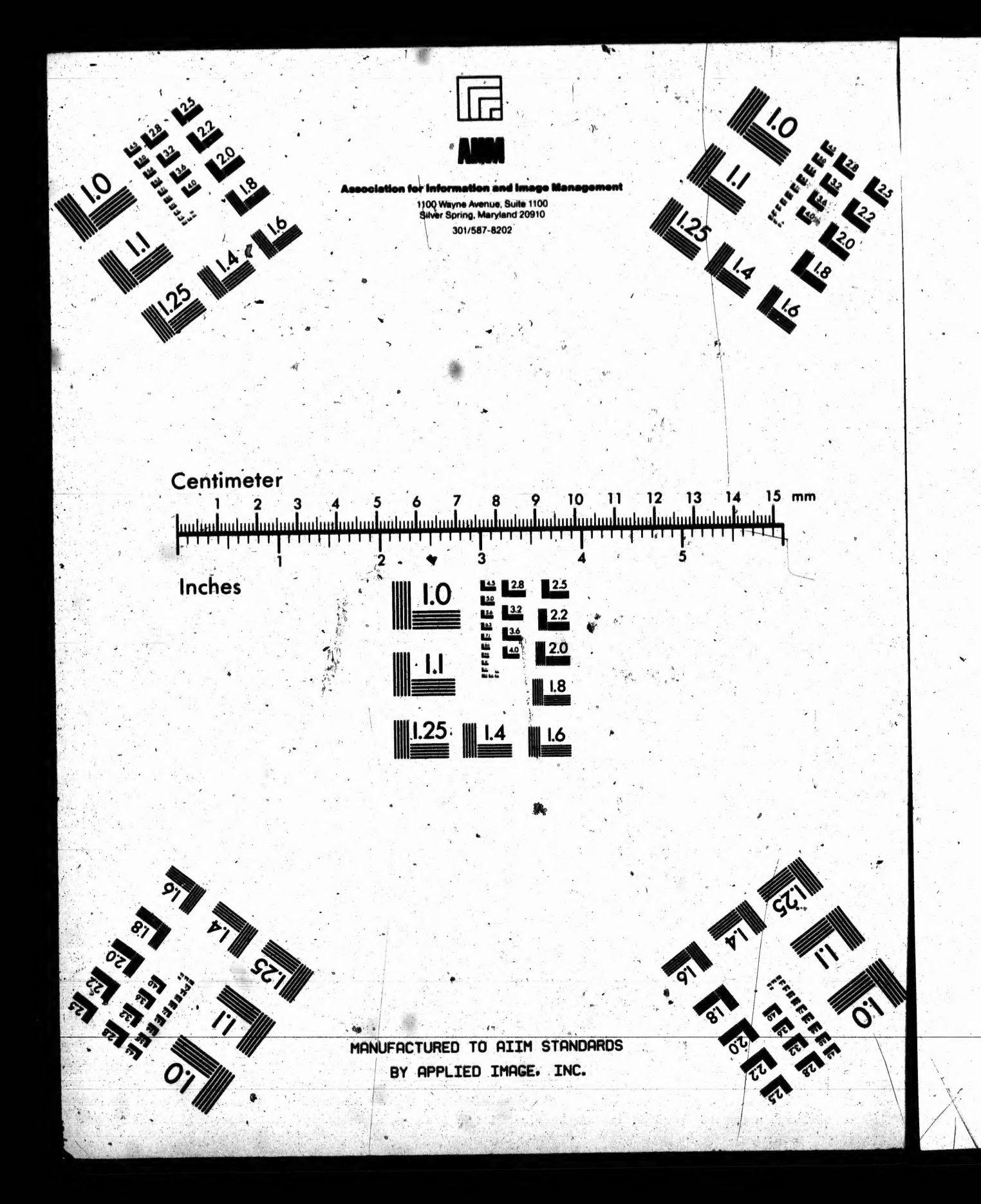
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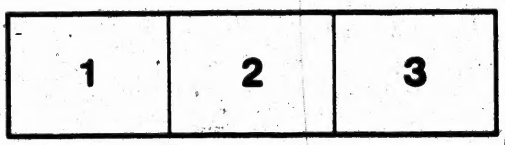

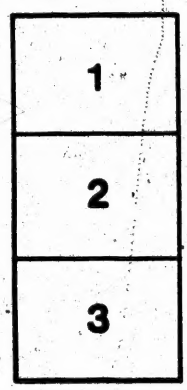

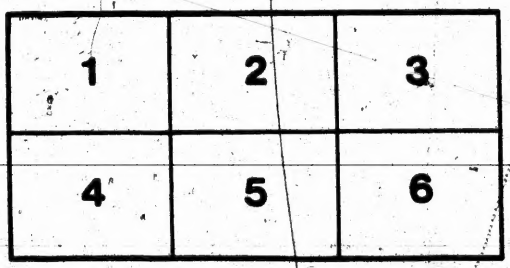

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ERRY, THE PRINTER, 36 WELLINGTON ST. WEST.

1883.

NATIONAL LIBERAL UNION

1882-3.

President,—W. B. McMURRICH.

Secretary,—GEO. MACDONALD, (Equity Chambers)

Treasurer,—CHARLES ROGERS, JR.

National Liberal Union Parliament,

OFFICE-BEARERS.

Speaker,—G. M. ROSE.

Chairman of Committees,—JOHN HALLAM.

Clerk of the House,—WM. MALLOY.

Deputy Clerk of the House,—JAMES MACDONALD.

Sergeant-at-Arms,—C. C. MCLAUGHLIN.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Gentleman: I may be pardoned if I should on the threshold of my remarks pause for an instant to thank you, as I do most heartily, for the honor you have conferred upon me in electing me as your president. It is an honor that any member may fairly feel proud of, not alone for the opportunity it affords him of being the exponent of your views but also of filling more largely those responsibilities which rest upon the shoulders of every citizen who has the welfare of his country at heart, and performing those duties with the knowledge that he possesses the confidence and sympathy in the fullest degree of those who have given him these opportunities. Your nomination of me therefore to this office I feel it a duty as a Canadian and especially at this juncture of affairs to accept, when it behoves all to come forward and give hearty and united co-operation in the carrying out of those objects which our union has in view, objects which if properly and patriotically advocated will, we firmly believe, advance the most material interests of this Canada of ours.

There is no doubt that at the present time there are many in our midst, yes many of the men on both sides of politics as at present constituted who would gladly throw aside the old party prejudices and grooves of action if they could find themselves given the opportunity of standing upon a more reasonable and patriotic platform where all could unite, freed from the recollections of bygone fierce political contests. It is the remembrance of these old antagonisms that should be forgotten and buried, rather than important differences upon political principles that keep many of our ablest men in open political hostility to one another. The fight over dead issues of the past, the traditions of the party, the fear of the consequences of acting independently of the party, the accident of birth

should not keep, as they have kept the men who think alike on the present living issues of the day, from uniting together and carrying out these new thoughts, these new principles, these new courses of action which the ever-varying wants and conditions of the country as it so rapidly progresses demand. Men are too apt to follow—from personal grounds—one leader or another without considering the political principles they represent, which they thus in following are supposed to repudiate or avow. It is our object so far as lies in our power, to endeavor to avoid these clogs and hindrances to a truly national life by studying ourselves and striving to disseminate that knowledge on all subjects as will enable us and those who sympathize with us to follow such principles as are in themselves right and for the welfare of the country, and not men, no matter how eminent they may be, if their thoughts and actions run in a different parallel.

We start into existence without a past political history and launch our union upon the waves of political thought untrammeled or over-freighted with the traditions and mistakes of the past, and perhaps it is well that under such circumstances you should have elected as your chief executive officer one who is a Canadian, and whose aims and aspirations are the same as your own, one who is proud as you all are of the country of which we form a part, and who wishes to join hands with you and all his fellow-countrymen in advancing its prosperity, and inducing among us that healthy national sentiment or national life, without which we cannot rise to that high position among the nations which our energy, our resources, our territory and our financial ability would warrant.

We cannot but feel proud of the progress that has marked our history in the past, we cannot but fail to admire the men in every rank of life whose thought and energy have made us what we are and we honor them for the work they have done. And yet, although time has removed many hindrances and rounded off many sharp angles, the careful and dispassionate student of past

events cannot fail to observe constantly working underneath the current of shifting events, envies and jealousies, prejudices and passions arising from political as well as religious causes, weakening the vital energies of the people and counteracting the possibility of the growth of a national spirit among them.

At no time in the political history of the country has there ever existed a feeling of good-fellowship in the minds and hearts of the various classes into which the Canadian people have ever been divided, and unless their minds are actuated and stimulated by common motives and their sentiment directed by common impulses no people ever had or can have that degree of political unity which alone can make them great. So long as the success of the party is the ultimate goal of all political life, so long will these evils remain, so long will these hindrances keep back and retard our onward prosperity. So long as the "party machine" is run in the manner it is now done, so long will the prejudices and superstitions of the electorate be appealed to and false issues be made available for party ends; sectional and sectarian interests considered and pandered to, and "patronage and spoils" be the end of statesmanship. No country and no people can ever hope to attain distinction in the various branches of human industry, in literature, science and art, in national life and all that contributes to national greatness without the conscious existence of a common bond of national unity and good fellowship, and this can never be with such influence at work as I have just named.

It was with the hope that by the principles we advocate this national unity might become a reality and this good fellowship be secured that the promoters of this union ushered it into existence. It was formed at a time when public attention was wholly taken up by the discussion of the various questions involved in the late political contest, but it took no part in the fray and the commencement of its birth was not heard above the clatter and din of the battle then at its height. However

it has proved a healthy child, and is progressing so very finely that we hope soon to see it develope into a robust and vigorous manhood, embodying all those excellencies and virtues characteristic of the typical Canadian. "Canada our home," and "measures, not men", is our rallying cry, and the enthusiastic manner in which one and all have entered heartily into the work of the union is a sure sign of its influence in the future and its success in carrying out the principles which it advocates.

It has been said that there is no room for a third party, that responsible government requiring to be carried on by party there can only be two—the party in power and the party out of it, or, shortly, the "ins" and the "outs." If this be true, what necessity is there for the establishment of our union? The question is pertinent, and should be answered before even giving the basis of union on which we are formed. If there is no necessity, then there is no use of our organization; if there is no need, we cannot meet with popular favor. If there is satisfaction with things as they are, then our mission is valueless unless we can show that such satisfaction is fallacious.

Are these necessities and needs and dissatisfactions in the body politic? Is it a fallacy that there can be only two parties? To answer these questions we have only to look at the condition of the political parties at the present time, and consider the lessons of the last general election. Two great questions were before the country, both equally important, not only as to their results upon the present, but also as regards the future. On the one hand there was the question of the national policy, on the other the question of provincial rights—each of paramount interest in their respective places and important for the stability of the grand confederation of provinces which it is our interest to maintain in all its strength and power. One political party made the national policy the battle cry before the people, refusing to bring into prominence the question of provincial rights from party necessities, the other ignoring the

former from similar considerations and making the latter very justly their rallying cry. The electorate were therefore for party purposes forced into a position in which it was necessary for them to vote for either one party or the other without being able to give a vote on principle on the two great questions laid before them—the consequence being the one question carrying the conservatives into power for the Dominion, while the other will carry the liberals into power in the Province of Ontario with votes that at the last general election were given to the conservative candidates. Had the aim of the political parties been to lay before the country such issues as would be for the interest of the country only and not for the benefit simply of a party, the country would have given no undecided answer I am sure in the affirmative on these two great leading questions. At no period of the history of the Dominion has there arisen so great a necessity for the formation of a truly national party, because at no period of her history has confederation been in greater danger than it is at the present time, owing to the feuds and evil legislation induced by party politics. Right minded men are asking how long the present system of things is to continue, how long is the party machine to be the embodiment of political power. When we find in her government a pandering to sectional and sectarian influences, when not the merits of the man but his religion or devotion to party is the passport to power or honorable distinction, When members of a party arrogate to themselves the right to represent and dictate to governments and ecclesiastics what shall be done for party and sectarian purposes, it is surely time for all true Canadians to awake to the necessity and need that exists to take such steps as will induce such a change of affairs that love of country and not of party shall be the animating principle to guide the electorate, and those that shall represent them in our legislatures and governments. We know no creed, no province, no nationality, but Canada one and indivisable, and in the words of Lord Dufferin, we may say "that never should a Canadian

forget, no matter what his station in life, what his origin or special environments, that in this broad Dominion he has that which it is worth while both to live and die for."

The spirit of the times has undergone rapid changes. The early history of our country was one in which the energies of its people were wholly engrossed by the toils and privations necessary to lay deep and broad its future prosperity. "The forest echoed to the stroke of the axe and the fall of timber"—the rude log cabin with its few acres of clearing was the home of the hardy settler. Roads had to be built, townships surveyed, industries started as the wants of the people called them into play, avenues of communication had to be made, and our municipal and educational interests placed on a solid basis. But now with these difficulties overcome, with our rapid advances in commercial enterprise, with our steamers and railways, our facilities of every kind, our power of availing ourselves of the resources placed within our reach, and our increase of population, the Anglo Saxon mind, with its inate energy and activity of thought has time to consider the surroundings and take steps for handing down to posterity the glorious heritage we have thus received. Questions pertinent to the present are ever cropping up, and what the future is to be, is one of the questions of the hour, and the needs of our present position are pressing themselves upon the earnest attention of every thinking man.

An organization therefore that endeavors to grapple with the necessities of the hour and the needs of the future animated with, but not arrogating to themselves, the sole claim to national feeling and desirous of studying the interests of country over party cannot surely be denied room in the political history of a country on the ground that there can only be two parties in the state. Third parties have been formed before this, and third parties when their views have been right and in the interests of the commonwealth have been productive of good and been the means of great reforms, and should

such be the only result of our union our labor will not have been in vain.

In thus making a new departure it will be of importance first to state clearly our opinion as to the relationship that should subsist between the mother country and this colony. We are no longer infants requiring to be spoon fed, but grown up stalwart sons ready and willing to assume and bear our just part of the burdens of the empire. The time has come when this colony at least is entitled to be considered as an integral part of the empire rather than as an appendage. Our growth and development has reached such a stage that some change must soon come in the present system of governing, and it is but prudent that such steps should at this juncture of affairs be taken as will give direction to the policy of the future. As we at present stand we are virtually independent of the motherland and as a colony have been granted rights which allow us to legislate at variance to the policy of the empire, to admit to Canadian nationality those who do not become British subjects by such an act, and in many ways to perform acts which ordinarly only appertain to a sovereign state. In the event of a war with Great Britain we may be called upon to defend our shores against a hostile attack by the enemies of the motherland, and yet England cannot call upon us to form a Canadian army to assist her. If we wish to negotiate or make a treaty with a foreign power we can only do this by means of the English government —and we have no power to make a foreigner a British subject. These are anamolies in our present position that shortly must come into the domain of politics and be made living issues. Canadians are loyal to the motherland and have offered and will offer again their services should they be required; but the manhood of the nation will not long allow the present anomalous condition of affairs to remain, for were Britain attacked, this country would require to be placed on a war footing not to give material support to England but to protect ourselves. A foreigner coming to Canada to settle becomes naturalized

so far as Canada is concerned, becomes entitled to all the privileges that his neighbors enjoy whatever their nationality, can acquire and hold land, vote and hold any government appointment, but for all this he is not a British subject, and were he taken captive by a foreign power would not be considered as such nor to claim any relief in this capacity. So a Frenchman, a German or any other nationality coming to this land and getting naturalized ceases to have any national standing as a British subject the moment he leaves it. We can easily see then how this must operate against emigration to this country, and throw a very powerful argument into the hands of the American emigration agents. And so with the treaty making power, with which I shall deal more in detail shortly. The expansion of our colonial system will not provide a remedy, and the most attractive is doubtless the federation of the empire, a scheme of government which has been so often alluded to and widely discussed that it is unnecessary for me at the present time to enlarge upon it. It is thought that there are great difficulties attending the carrying out of this scheme, so much so much so that to many it seems visionary, but if difficulties of an insurmountable nature preclude for the present a grand federation of the empire and the colonies, there can hardly be any great difficulty in taking the first step in this direction by the formation of a commercial zollverein between the mother country and the colonies, so that they would be able to trade upon more favorable terms with one another and exclude foreigners from the benefit of such trade. It is quite evident that the colonies must either be brought more closely into alliance with the motherland than at present, or set up as independent allies.

By a commercial policy such as I have alluded to creating a community of interest profitable to all, a step would be taken in the direction of uniting all in one harmonious whole politically and give the orbit in which this colony and the others should describe their circle around the parent land. In due time, arising from the closer

intimacy and community of interest thus formed, the political ties would take shape and legislation would naturally and in due course remedy the anomalies to which I have just referred. These anomalies removed, the status of a British subject given to all, with the inherent power of assimilation which naturally belongs to the English-speaking race, we should build such a healthy sentiment in the country that our spirit of nationality would burn out as pure and clear as that of the mother-land, and we would hear *our* country, *our* dominion, *our* institutions alluded to in a spirit of pride and possession altogether different from what is unfortunately the case at the present time. Conscious of our powers, with the spirit of freedom breathing upon us, we would go forward in our might with energy and resolution of purpose to develope those resources of mine, forest, prairie, lake and farm that nature gives us so bountifully and rewards us so amply for our toil, feeling that the destinies of the future for weal and woe are in our hands, for Canada is the "land of the future," and trusting that we may humbly do our duty to advance its best interests now committed to our care,

And now coming to what is perhaps after all the test of any party, namely, its platform, we must endeavor with all frankness so to express our views that, avoiding generalities on the one hand and narrowness of thought on the other, we may give no uncertain sound in regard to those principles which we consider best for the advancement and prosperity of this Canada of ours, and endeavoring so far as in us lies to have our action guided by past experience we encourage amongst ourselves the cultivation of a thorough knowledge of constitutional history. Thus fortified we lay down our platform as follows:

The advocacy and promotion of all Candian interests and the maintenance of all established industries.

The body of the people in 1878 and again in 1882 have pronounced in favor of a protective tariff, and in accord-

ance with representative institutions the same is now we hold settled as the basis on which our tariff is to be framed and has become by legislation the law of the land, subject, however, as regards the details of the same to such changes as the wants of the country and its industries may demand. There is no doubt whatever that the primary necessity of all tariffs is to raise a revenue, but the incidence of taxation is also a very necessary feature of the same. Under this latter head and governing it is the principle of protection so settled, or the adjustment of the tariffs so that in the levying of the tax encouragement may be given to all industries within our borders. Whatever may have been the position of parties towards protection before its adoption, now that it has been adopted and reaffirmed it should be accepted. We but follow the example of those who bitterly opposed confederation before it was enacted and the provinces joined, but becoming an accomplished fact withdrew all opposition and have ever since done their part loyally and cheerfully in aiding on its progress and stability. The will of the majority must always rule in representative institutions. As I said before there are defects in the present tariff that should be remedied—new adjustments that should be made and could be made without doing any violence to the principle estabilised—taxation on raw material that could be removed to allow the benefits of protection to be more evenly felt by the manufactures of certain grades of goods and certain articles eliminated entirely from the list as pressing too hardly on that class of commodities known as the necessaries of life. These and other changes we would desire to see made in this direction will naturally come to be made in the future and will receive support at the hands of our union as tending to carry out the broad principle we have laid down the maintenance of all established industries and the promotion of all Canadian interests and as carrying out in a broader sense the verdict of the electorate as expressed at the general elections to which I have above alluded. Next in order is

The right to negotiate our own commercial treaties.

This question is closely allied with that of which I have just been speaking and arises to a certain extent from it. The mother-land conscious of and recognizing our rapid strides towards national existence has graciously yielded to the adoption by us of a policy in regard to our tariff, the very opposite of that which regulates the commercial interests of that old land. And that right of legislating for ourselves and to suit our own peculiar circumstances should carry with it the right, so far as our commerce is concerned, of the extension of the same to suit our wants, even when such should conflict with the commercial interests of the empire, as has been notably the case in regard to the tariff. We, more than the motherland, know what we require; we know best what markets of the world we can, with advantage to ourselves, compete in and with; and without in the slightest weakening the tie that binds us to the empire, and without increasing the cost of the governmental machinery, we could be granted this right with benefit to ourselves and without harm to any one. In fact, if the scheme to which I have alluded—the commercial union of the colonies and England—could be carried out in its entirety, its elasticity would enable this matter to be fully dealt with in the interests of all concerned. The tariff we now have is in fact a treaty, except in so far it is not a compact. If we are able to foster our industries to such an extent that we can supply foreign markets as well as our own—and I hope we shall soon be able to do so—then I think it reasonable that we should possess those powers which will enable us to effect a barter and exchange with any one who may be willing to purchase from us. In an address such as the present it would be manifestly out of place to go into a minute argument in regard to the advisability or non-advisability of the adoption of each particular plank in our platform, my object being simply to state what we believe are the

proper principles which we are prepared to stand by and argue on their merits. At the same time, in referring to them, it is my wish to give shortly the direction in which our thoughts tend in connection with each plank of our platform. This question particularly has been so ably discussed on the floor of the House of Commons that it is not unfamiliar to the electorate, and we feel, the more it is considered and the more it is debated, the greater will be the certainty of its final accomplishment.

The maintenance of an election law, pure, stringent and uniform.

All parties will, in theory, if not in practice, support this proposition. Every Canadian, whether to the manor born or by adoption, who values the institutions of his country and is not blinded by party prejudices must desire to have such an election law as will give, unbiassed by sectional or sectarian or improper influences, the free vote of the people. Much has been done in this direction, and we gladly give credit to those who have so improved our law in this respect; and we trust to see many safeguards yet introduced and a uniform law of election for the Dominion and several provinces.

The re-adjustment of the franchise and the establishment of a method of representation by which a more correct expression of the political convictions of the electors may be obtained.

It is a matter of congratulation to the union to find that even already, during the short time we have been in existence, the conservative party, possessed of that wonderful power of absorption from outside sources which has always characterized them, have found out that there is one new feature at least in our platform that is worthy of being pressed, and at the convention lately held at Toronto the above principle of the readjustment of the franchise was made part of their basis of action and the substance of one of the resolutions passed. We

are glad to think that we have their co-operation in this particular. In alluding to this matter, it is apparent that there is a great want of *uniformity* in the exercise of the franchise in dominion elections—each several province having its own peculiar election law, the one diverse from the other, and the several provinces returning their representatives to the dominion government on the provincial basis thus stated—we thus find the franchise conferred upon a certain class of voters in one province and the same class in another province disfranchised—we find a higher or lower scale of assessment in each —and many irregularities which it would be wise to level up or down, as the case may be, so that the franchise for the election of members for the dominion house of commons should be the same for the whole confederation. Taking the province of Ontario as an example, and the most natural one for us to allude to under the circumstances, we find that the farmers sons under our local legislature have had, with the restrictions mentioned in the act, the power of voting conferred upon them. It was then thought that the income vote would doubtless cover the vote of the intelligent son of the merchant, mechanic, professional man and others, equally entitled to the franchise with the class I have just named. Experience having shown that this is not the case, it is manifestly unfair that so large and important a portion of the body politic should remain unrepresented, and hence we advocate that the distinction at present existing between the classes to which I have just alluded should be done away with and all placed on the same footing. We wish no class distinction; all are free and in a free country where there should be a fair field and no favor, and where no class should be given privileges over any other class standing on the same plane. Should the franchise of Ontario thus amended be adopted as the proper basis, then this should be made the basis for the dominion, so that one uniform law and one uniform method of election so highly necessary in representative institutions could be carried out. Personally, I may say, that with such a

basis so settled upon, and with the enactment of a compulsory system of voting, which has already been under discussion in one at least of our legislative halls, I would have no fear of the opinions of the electorate at large being well represented in the various bodies who enact our laws and carry out those principles of government which seem to the electorate, the true governing body, the best fitted for producing the greatest results in the interests and prosperity of our confederation.

Following naturally as a consequence to the introduction of a uniform franchise is that of a uniform arrangement of electoral districts throughout the dominion, so that they shall all include as nearly as possible an equal population. The act passed last session purporting to so arrange the division, and which is popularly known as the "gerrymandering" act, was very defective, and was passed simply for party purposes and for the exigencies of the same; for while it pretended to equalize, it had for this reason a very different and altogether sinister object. It is, however, of little use now discussing this phase of the question, but it must strike everyone that if it was necessary to equalize Ontario it was quite as necessary and quite as proper and requisite to do so in Quebec and the other provinces where there are really more inequalities than exist in the province that was so highly favored. If it was wrong in Ontario for say 6,000 persons to have as large a representation in the house of commons as 25,000 or 30,000, it was in my opinion equally an error to allow such a state of things to exist in any of the other provinces. In the younger provinces it might be argued that a generous treatment should be accorded, but even then the principle could be carried out and the electoral districts varied as the rapid growth of the population in any particular district thereof should warrant a change. How or in what manner, and by whom the division should be made is an open question. If left to a dominant faction of the house, it is almost impossible to keep party purposes and requirements out of the calculation, but if it could be relegated to some

independent tribunal, and one above and superior to the needs of party, such as an electoral commission to be composed o say the judges of the supreme court, whose recommendations should become enactive by act of parliament, then it is possible that such a scheme as I indicated might be carried out, without being open to the natural objections that ever arise on such redistribution being made made by any of the political parties of the state.

The preservation inviolate of Provincial rights as guaranteed by the Act of Confederation.

Of all the questions that can agitate the electorate and that are agitating it at the present time, none can be more important than this one. We are glad of confederation, we wish to see it succeed, we have great hopes of its future. We therefore heartily deprecate any policy that would weaken in the slightest degree the foundation on which it has been reared and on the stability of which the future greatness of our country must depend. Mayor Cleveland, of Buffalo, just elected governor of New York State in opposition to the republican candidate, Judge Folger, struck the key note of the defeat of the republican party when he said that the immediate cause of the democratic victory was the interference of the national administration with state politics. And so the present policy of the dominion government, if persisted in, cannot but end in its disastrous defeat, and justly so.

The separate provinces which now compose the confederation were prior to the same taking place, independent states to all intents and purposes, and as colonies of the motherland, had been granted certain powers and privileges which they exercised in their inherent right as colonies. When confederation was formed, these several provinces agreed that certain of their rights, powers and privileges should be handed over to a federal authority to be dealt with by that government, and asked the imperial parliament to grant a charter carrying into effect the agreement thus arrived at, reserving to them-

selves and having embodied in the said charter when passed the right to control their local affairs and enjoy all privileges inherent in the said provinces in connection therewith, and theirs of right as well as all other powers not formally ceeded by them as aforesaid, under the said charter of confederation. This we believe to be the true relation of the provinces to confederation—confederation was not the cause of but the outcome of the action of the several provinces. It was not the parent but the offspring; and while the powers granted to it are to be enjoyed as its alienable right, the rights of the respective provinces, in their own spheres, have to be jealously guarded. Even apart however from the basis I have just laid down as the mutual relationship between the dominion and provinces, a glance at the act of confederation will show us that certain classes of rights were to be dealt with by the provincial governments, and I hold that any fair and candid reading of the act itself, read in the light of the utterances of our public men, who drew up and formulated the articles thereof, will demonstrate the fact that both the letter and spirit of the act is that the local governments, acting within the scope of their authority, have a right to pass such legislative measures as to them may seem meet. That measures so passed cannot lawfully be interfered with by the dominion government, and any attempt to do so on a subject or matter declared by our said constitution to be within the competency of such legislature to deal with is not only an unconstitutional act but an unwarranted and dangerous usurpation of power on the part of the federal government. It was, I am sure, never intended by the framers of our constitution, who were seeking to provide for self-government, that the power of disallowance should be exercised in controverting the expressed will of the local legislature or any of them while acting within the scope of their authority. To admit such a proposition would constitute the thirteen members of the dominion government a court of review to pass upon all legislation of the local parliaments and empower such government to

allow or disallow whatever they deemed unwise or improper legislation, without regard to whether it was *ultra vires* or controverting some dominion interest. The disallowance of the Ontario streams bill and of the Manitoba railway charters which by the inherent rights of the several provinces they admitedly had a right to pass, is, as I have said, not only unconstitutional in itself, but it is also an unwarranted usurpation of power which, if acquiesced in, will tend most seriously to weaken the federal bond of union and impair the usefulness of our local governments. We therefore, in Ontario, in the interests of our country and our common nationality, join hands with the sister province of Manitoba in the determination to support the maintainance of those rights which as provinces we have the privilege to enjoy. We take this stand not only in justice to ourselves but also in justice to the smaller provinces, who, if the principle be once admitted, would suffer more, with the least ability to defend, than would this province with its large representation in the house of commons. If acts of parliament passed by the local legislatures, and which they are competent to pass, are to be subject to this power of disallowance, there can be no certainty with regard to any of them until the time within which that power may be exercised has elapsed. The defenders of the dominion government in this matter practically say that no act of the provincial legislatures can become law if the federal government choose to disallow it, thus making its discretion the measure of its authority. No wonder then we find in the several provinces parties formed and rallying round such cries as "Quebec first," "British Columbia first," and "Manitoba first," parties called into existence by the unwarranted acts and hostile attitude of the dominion government towards these different provinces. If we are animated by the proper spirit, if we wish to avoid anything that would cause sectional difference, if wish to see our grand confederation a success and a healthy spirit of true Canadian nationality developed, this can only be done by doing

justice to all. If we stand by and allow the privileges of our provinces to be trampled upon we shall soon find that we have a strong centralized government at Ottawa unrestrained by any constitutional check or limitation, based on the destruction of our provincial rights and ending in the annihilation of the fair fabric of our dominion. We have only to look around us to see how far already this dangerous disregard of provincial rights has gone; as witness, the feeling evoked in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, and the threatened action of the dominion government in regard to the licensing power of the several provinces, especially in this latter case when we consider the very flimsy pretext which is put forward as the basis of the action, behind which is concealed the party intent which is altogether too apparent. I trust you will pardon my lengthened reference to this plank in our platform but I feel it is a vital one, and that we should join shoulder to shoulder with the other provinces in stoutly maintaining it. Next we have.

A reformation of the senate so as to bring it into harmony with the principles of representative institutions.

It is apparent to all that something must really be done with this august body. As constituted at present it is out of joint with our system of self government and does not perform the functions it was designed to exercise in checking hasty and ill-advised legislation on the part of the popular body. It is quite as partizan as the commons, and does not view matters otherwise than with reference to party interests. It forms no check upon a conservative house of commons. Most of its members owe their appointment to the leader of the present government and have always shown an undue willingness to obey his commands. While it might afford a check on a liberal house of commons, it does nothing more when conservatives are in the ascendancy than register their decrees. Instances of this are so patent, notably in the passing of the Canadian Pacific Railway bill and others that I need not take up your time in referring to them. The

senate, so long as the conservatives are in power, is virtually useless, and had the liberal party been in power for years a similar result would doubtless have been arrived at. It is simply a sanctuary, or should I say an expensive hospital for political incurables, a reward for party services or a convenient refuge for those who arrogate to themselves the right to control votes, but who would fail to get votes sufficient, and have failed to obtain same to elect them to the popular branch of the legislature.

It is to continue a part of our legislative economy let it be brought into harmony with the rest of our systems and be worked upon the same rules. Let them derive their authority direct from the people as was formerly the case, and which is the best solution of the question and more in harmony with our circumstances and relations, or let them be selected by the legislatures of the several provinces. The number might also be reduced so that the province of Ontario would have 12, Quebec 12 the maratime provinces 12, and British Columbia, Manitoba and the other western provinces to have a representation of not more than 12, and in no event the representation for any single province to exceed that amount. These members could be returned from large uniform districts, or as I have said chosen, by the legislatures of the provinces respectively, one half elected or choosen every four years, the term of office to be for eight years Under such a system we would have a constant flow of new blood into the body that would go far to redeem it from the state of lethargy into which it has fallen. By such a system of choosing its members it might become really a council of wise men whose influence would be of the very highest value. Our next principle requires me to say but little in regard to it, it is

The upholding of the independence of parliament having a due regard to its responsibility to the people and the true principles of representative government.

The justice, fairness and reasonableness of this pro-

position needs no words of comment. They come immately to the minds of every one, and yet no principle is more necessary to the stability of representative nstitutions. Our next bond of union is

A determined hostility to the creation by legislative enactment of railway or land monopolies.

Monoplies have ever been the curse of any nation and with the experience of the past even in our land where, in connection with the early history of the country and the founding of large trade associations such as the Hudson Bay company, the company of 100 adventurers, and others, the baneful influences have been deeply felt, it is surprising that at this late day a policy, having similar objects, should have been introduced to mar and hamper the progress of one of the most important and progressive portions of our dominion. These administrative acts on the part of the present government we consider unwise, impolitic and at variance with the spirit of the age.

The granting of the contract to the Canada Pacific in itself may have been wise, but the allowance of a clause in the same requiring the government to prevent the building of any competing lines was a stupendous blunder, and is now commencing to bear its legitimate fruit in causing irritation and discontent which, if not allayed, may plunge us into difficulties such as those in the history of this province which our forefathers struggled with the family compact for responsible government. If the position which I laid down in discussing provincial rights is tenable, and I am of opinion it is, then I say that the creation of such a monopoly and the power to extend it for twenty years is an act which the dominion parliament had no authority to pass, and in doing so they exceeded their powers. When parliament thus strives, or by its action surrenders the commercial liberty of the people, its decrees are no longer binding, and the people have the right by every constitutional means to have all such legislation set aside; especially is his case where the surrender of a peoples liberty is made

to an unrelenting and exacting class of task-masters who have only their private interests to serve, and have little or no thought to give to those, for whom and for whose benefit they were called into being.

Government is commissioned to preserve the liberties of the people, not to surrender them, and when it does the latter its decrees are no longer binding on the people whose rights it has betrayed, and it matters not that the surrender be of commercial or political indepence. It was surely enough to give the syndicate sufficient money and land to build the road and to provide a handsome surplus against loss in the beginning when it would not have sufficient traffic to pay running expenses without going further and saying that no competing line for twenty years should be built. The check proposed in the way of limiting freight rates is totally inadequate to prevent abuses. We advocate the repeal of this clause of the Canada Pacific charter and the use of constitutional means in so doing.

The formation of land companies was a natural sequence of the former blunder. One false step led up to others. The formation of these companies will benefit no one, many who embark in them will find to their cost when it is too late that they were following a will o' the wisp across the prairies in search of gold. These companies are a delusion and a snare the settler avoids them as the traveller does the deadly upas tree, he will not seek a resting place beneath its inviting but poisonous branches. The locking up of the land in the meantime will have a tendency to drive settlers away, and much injury will be done to the country before the government can re-possess the land and offer it for settlement. The only correct system upon which the government should dispose of the public land is to part with it as it becomes absorbed by the actual increase of population and not to part with it in large tracts to corporations or individuals or speculation. The government should sell to the settler at the lowest price consistent with the public interest and not allow intervening land agents whether in

the guise of religious, or humanitarian, colonization companies or individuals to parcel out and retail the land at a profit. The effect of such companies will retard rather than further emigration. But we go a step further in this matter and affirm that in the creation of new provinces, whenever that becomes necessary, they should be started into being clothed with all the powers and privileges of the older provinces, in fact placed upon the same level. They should have control of their own crown and school lands in the same manner and to the same extent as the other provinces. On what principle of equity or justice can this be denied to them if they are to be an integral portion of the confederation. Why should the dominion government retain the control and management of the crown lands in Manitoba? They have tacitly admitted they have not the right in offering the province a *quid pro quo* in the shape of an increase to their subsidy. A certain portion of the crown lands might perhaps be reasonably retained to repay some portion of the outlay required in respect to its creation, but the rest should be under the control of the local government, for all these local matters, even as a matter of convenience, can be much better attended to on the spot than by a central authority at a distance of hundreds of miles. It the interest of confederation, and as a matter of justice to Manitoba and the Northwest, we strongly advocate their right to be placed on the same footing as regards their crown lands as the other provinces.

The promotion of a system of emigration for the settlement of our public lands and the development of our resources, witholding government aid in the importation of skilled artisans and cheap labor, with the determined object of protecting Canadian workmen against unnecessary and unfair competition.

Our farm lands in the older provinces and our vast stretches of prairie land we throw open to the agricultural laborer, and welcome them gladly to our shores, no matter from what land they come, and we rejoice to see

all legitimate means used to attract such labor to our country, but we deprecate the giving of assisted passages to skilled artizans for the purpose of bringing them to compete in a glutted market, with those who are striving to earn a livelihood in our midst. Next

That the principal positions in our military system be filled by officers trained in Canada.

We are proud of our country and of the many noble names that we have already enrolled in the world's scroll of fame, and we feel that even in this department, where we possess officers who have won for themselves not only a Canadian but a world wide reputation when competing with the military savants of the same, they should be at the head of our militia system. We have amongst us at the head of various regiments officers who have given their time—their lifetime and their means to the keeping up of the reputation and efficiency of our volunteer force, who cannot under present circumstances, this being simply a colony, ever reach a higher rank than lieutenant-colonel, but who if placed in similar circumstances in the old land would by their talents be able to fill any department or rank in the imperial service. If we cannot offer here in this land of ours a higher title, we can at least place these men where their talents can be made available, and offer to them the highest places in our militia system as something worthy to aspire to as Canadians, and which from their intimate acquaintance with the wants and customs of our people they will be able to fill with greater benefit to the general good, than when left in the hands of those, imported temporarily into the country who do not on all occasions treat with that consideration and courtesy as could be wished those who under great difficulties are doing their best to make our militia system a basis of support in time of danger. We also advocate

A reduction of the cost of Government by the abolition of superfluous offices.

The reduction in the members of the senate already

alluded to with the doing away of at least six of the ministerial portfolios and the lopping off of many superfluous offices, would contribute to the lessening of the expenses of government very materially. And lastly, we make the final plank of our platform.

The dissemination of a knowledge on all subjects tending to the promotion of good Government and the fostering of a truly national sentiment in all matters pertaining to the well being of the Dominion.

And now, gentlemen, my task is finished, and results are in your hands and in the hands of those to whose consideration we submit our views. If the aspirations after a national life and destiny are good, then let us pursue with ardor the task which we have voluntarily placed upon our shoulders with confidence, and a firm reliance in the justice of our principles, and let us stand shoulder to shoulder in their advocacy. We look forward with fond anticipation to the future of our country, and to the bright, prosperous and happy day in store for her, when she shall stand "erect among the nations, fearless and unfettered, her brow blooming with the wreath of science, her path strewed with the offerings of art, the breath of heaven blessing her flag, the extremities of earth blessing her name, her fields waving with the fruits of agriculture, her ports alive with the contributions of commerce and her temples vocal with unrestricted piety. Happy he who shall see this accomplished. Happy he who through every peril toils for thy attainment." God bless this Canada of ours.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas the Parliament of Canada as at present constituted, fails to meet the requirements of the Intellectual and material progress of the Dominion and manifests no disposition to foster a polity consistent with the true principles of representative Government, but rather to make it a machine for building up Political power at the expense of Political freedom.

And whereas at the present juncture of Political events, it is desirable to obtain a thorough knowledge of the Political History of Canada and the Political issues of the day to enable us to discharge our duties as citizens with an intelligent and patriotic regard to the best interests of the State, and that our knowledge of the imperfections of the present system should take the form of active and defined expression.

PREAMBLE

CONSTITUTION

—OF—

The National Liberal Union

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

This Association shall be known as "The National Liberal Union."

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

The cultivation of a thorough knowledge of Constitutional History.

The advocacy and promotion of all Canadian Interests, and the maintenance of all established industries.

The right to negotiate our own commercial treaties:

The maintenance of an Election Law, pure, stringent and uniform:

The re-adjustment of the franchise and the establishment of a method of representation by which a more correct expression of the political convictions of electors may be obtained.

The preservation inviolate of Provincial rights as guaranteed by the Act of Confederation.

A reformation of the Senate so as to bring it into

The upholding of the Independence of Parliament, having a due regard to its responsibility to the people and the true principles of representative Government:

A determined hostility to the creation by legislative enactment of Railway or Land monopolies:

The promotion of a system of emigration for the settlement of our public lands and the developement of our resources, withholding Government aid in the importation of skilled artizans and cheap labor, with the determined object of protecting Canadian workmen against unnecessary and unfair competition:

That the principal positions in our Militia system be filled by officers trained in Canada:

A reduction of the cost of Government by the abolition of superfluous offices;

A dissemination of a knowledge on all subjects tending to the promotion of good government and the fostering of a truly national sentiment on all matters pretaining to the well being of the Dominion.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

The officers of the Union at Toronto shall consist of a President, nine Vice-Presidents, three from each of the Electoral Divisions of Toronto, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

ARTICLE IV.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the said officers and fifteen others to be chosen in equal numbers from the Electorial Divisions of Toronto, any five of said committee shall form a quorum and their action shall be binding upon the Union.

OFFICERS' DUTIES.

PRESIDENT.

Section I.—It shall be the duty of the President, to preside at all public and private meetings of the Union, to enforce a due observance of the Constitution, By-laws, and Rules of Order; to announce the result of all balloting or other votes; to call special meetings as provided in the By-laws, and to exercise a general care and superintendence over the affairs of the Union. He shall not vote unless there be a tie, when he shall have the casting vote, and he shall be *ex-officio* a member of all Committees.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Section II.—In the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents, or in their absence a Chairman chosen by the meeting, shall preside, and perform the duties of that officer. It shall also be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to call meetings within their own Electoral District over which they shall preside as Chairman, "virtute officii."

SECRETARY.

Section III.—The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Union, shall have the custody of its books, papers and correspondence, and shall be *ex-officio* member of all Committees.

Section IV.—It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to keep in the Register of the Union, a list of all members, with their residences, and issue all circulars when so required by the President or executive committee.

TREASURER.

Section V.—It shall be the duty of Treasurer to receive all moneys belonging to the Union, to keep a written account of all receipts and expenditure, and to pay no sum without obtaining the written order of either the President, or the Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Section VI.—It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to report all matters upon which the action of the Union may be particularly required; to recommend to the Union subjects for discussion, and the occasions for holding public meetings; and generally to employ such active measures for carrying out the objects of the Union as they may deem advisable.

ARTICLE V.

BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS.

Unions may be formed in any Electoral Division in the Dominion on the basis of this Union, and it shall be the duty of the Executive at Toronto to co-operate with other associations in the Dominion and to promote the formation of similar Unions.

ARTICLE VI.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS OF UNION ASSOCIATIONS.

The duties of the officers of each union shall be the same within their own electoral division as the duties of the officers of the Union at Toronto.

ARTICLE VII.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Section I.—The first election of officers shall take place on the Nineteenth day of May, A.D. 1882, and thereafter the officers of the Union and the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually on the the third Friday of May.

BALLOT.

Section II.—All elections after the first election shall be by ballot, and after nomination.

NOMINATION OF EXECUTIVE.

Section III.—Each member of the Executive Committee, who is to be selected from a particular Electoral Division, shall be first nominated by an elector of such Division.

FILLING VACANCIES.

Section IV.—In case of a vacancy occuring in any of these offices, notice shall be given at the first meeting, and a new election to fill the vacancy shall be held at the second meeting thereafter.

ARTICLE VIII.

MEMBERSHIP TO CONSIST OF.

The membership of the Union shall consist of those whose names, occupations, residences and places of business shall be furnished to the Secretary, recommended by two members of the Union, and by him entered in the Register.

Provided also that all those who shall be entered in the Register as members of any Union by the secretary of such Union, shall be members of this Union.

ARTICLE IX.

REMOVAL, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION.

The Executive Committee may, after due notice, by a two-thirds vote of the Committee, suspend any officer or expel any member, subject in each case to an appeal to the Union from such decision; and such notice of appeal shall be given to the Secretary in writing within one month from the date of such suspension or expulsion.

ARTICLE X.

AMENDMENTS.

No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to this Constitution without a two-thirds vote of the members of the Union at Toronto present at any regular meeting, and one months' previous notice to the Secretary in writing.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

ORDINARY MEETINGS.

Section I.—The Union, unless specially adjourned, shall assemble on the first and third Friday in every month, for the promotion of its objects and the transaction of its ordinary business.

SPECIAL MEETINGS.

Section II.—Special Meetings may be called by the President at any time; and he shall call Special Meetings also upon the written request of five of the members.

ARTICLE II.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The following Order of Proceedings shall be observed at all business meetings, unless varied by a two-thirds vote:

1. Call to Order.
2. Reading of Minutes.
3. Communications.
4. Reports of Officers.
5. Reports of Committees.
   - (1.) Executive.
   - (2.) Special.

6. Notices of Motion.
7. Nomination and Election of Officers.
8. General Discussions and Debates.
9. New Business.
10. Adjournment.

ARTICLE III.

RULES OF ORDER.

Section I.—No motion shall be open for consideration until moved and seconded, committed to writing, and stated from the Chair.

Section II.—When a question is before the Union, no motion shall be received except to adjourn, to lay on the table, the previous question, to postpone, to refer, or to amend.

Section III.—While an amendment to an amendment is under consideration, no further motion to amend is in order.

Section IV.—All questions, unless otherwise provided, shall be decided by the majority of members present.

Section V.—When a member rises to speak, he shall respectfully address his remarks to the presiding officer, confine himself to the question, and avoid personality. Should more than one member rise to speak about the same time, the Chairman shall determine who is entitled to the floor.

Section VI.—When a member is called to order by the Chairman, he shall at once take his seat, and the point shall be decided by the Presiding Officer, without discussion.

Section VII.—If any member feels aggrieved by the decision of the Presiding Officer, he may appeal to the Union, and the question shall be put: "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?"

Section VIII.—Upon the request of any five members, the Presiding Officer shall order the yeas and nays to be taken and recorded in the minutes.

Section IX.—In every Committee, one-third of the members comprising it shall constitute a quorum, provided that not less than three at any time constitute such quorum.

Section X.—All Reports of Committees shall be presented in writing if required by the Presiding Officer.

ARTICLE IV.

RECEIPTS.

Section I.—The Receipts of this Union shall consist of one dollar per annum from each affiliated member, together with all voluntary subscriptions from members of the Union.

MEMBERSHIP TICKET.

Section II.—Tickets of membership shall be issued by the Secretary of this Union, and the Secretary of each branch union, the same to be countersigned by the Secretary and furnished by him to the members of such Union and branch union.

ARTICLE V.

AMENDMENTS.

No alteration or amendment shall be made to By-laws nor Rules of Order without one months' previous notice in writing, and a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting; neither can they be suspended at ordinary meetings but by a like vote, for the occasion only.

ARTICLE VI.

All the By-laws and Articles of this Constitution shall apply to all unions formed upon the basis of this Union.

RULES.

1. The National Liberal Union Parliament is established for the purpose of discussing political and social topics so far as may be practicable, according to the forms of the Dominion House of Commons.

Definition of Terms and Interpretation of Rules.

2. The following terms shall in construing these rules have the meanings assigned:

The Speaker, the Chairman of committees and the Clerk of the House, shall include any member discharging the functions of these officers respectively.

"The House" shall mean any general meeting.

"Committee" shall mean committee of the whole house in general meeting.

"Measure" shall mean any bill or resolution set down for debate.

"Orders of the Day," shall mean the measures set down for discussion any evening.

"Questions" shall mean questions addressed to the ministry or to any individual member thereof.

"Division" shall mean taking votes by show of hands or otherwise, as provided for.

3. Should any doubt arise as to the meaning or operation of any rule or practice of the House, the ruling thereupon from the chair of the speaker elected for the session shall be [illegible] unless the decision is [illegible] member shall apply only to the immediate subject matter with [illegible] as a precedent.

Enrolement of Members.

4. The Parliament shall consist of the members of the National Liberal Union in good standing, and at the first meeting after the election of and member he shall be presented to the speaker, take his seat, and sign the roll.

5. Each member shall nominally represent an existing parliamentary constituency. No constituency shall be represented by two members, unless there be no available vacancy in the constituency book. A constituency book shall be kept by the clerk of the House, in which shall be enrolled the names and addresses of members. Said book shall at all times be accessible to the members of the Union. Members shall choose their own constituencies in order of enrolement and competing claims shall be decided by the Executive.

Officers.

6. The officers shall be the Speaker, the Chairman of committees the Clerk of the House, and the Sergeant-at-Arms, all of whom shall enjoy the full priveleges of membership. They shall be elected on the first night of the session and hold office until the first night of the following session.

7. The Speaker shall preside over the sitting of the House except when in Committee.

8. The Chairman of committees if he has not spoken during the debate in progress, shall in the absence of the Speaker preside over the sitting of the House. Immediately the House being moved into committee, the Speaker shall vacate the chair which shall then be taken by the Chairman of committees.

9. If the Speaker and Chairman of committees be absent, or if the latter be incapable to preside, a member who has not spoken during the debate in progress shall be called to the

chair. Such member while presiding shall (subject to Rule 4) have all the powers of the Speaker.

10. The Clerk of the House. The duties of this officer shall be with the assistance of a deputy, to record the proceedings of the House, to summon and keep the minutes of the Council, to affix to the notice boards a copy or abstract of all measures questions, &c., set down for discussion, and to act generally as required in this regard, having the power to appoint his own deputy.

11. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall regulate the admission of strangers and attend to other formal proceedings of the House

12. The Debates of the Society shall be conducted by a Ministry who shall resign on the rejection of any measure introduced by them or on a vote of censure or want of confidence being passed by the House.

13. The Premier shall choose his own Cabinet which shall be composed of not less than seven members, whose offices shall be entered on the minutes of the House. He shall also choose all other government officials.

14. It shall be the duty of the Ministry to ensure matter for debate at every alternate meeting.

15. The Ministry may proceed generally by resolution. It shall however be incumbent upon them to introduce and carry through all the various stages at least two bills each session.

16. On the resignation of the Ministry, the Speaker shall on the same evening call upon the leader of the opposition to form a Ministry.

17. In the event of the Premier withdrawing from the Premiership, such withdrawal shall not necessitate the resignation of the whole ministry, but they may with the sanction of the House, appoint his successor.

The Opposition.

18. The opposition shall appoint a leader to co-operate with the government as to the due conduct of debate.

Notices.

19. All notices of measures or questions must be given in writing in duplicate to the Clerk of the House at least seven days before they are brought in for discussion, to enable him to prepare abstract for notice board.

20. Before leave is granted to introduce any measure, three copies must be lodged with the Clerk of the House.

21. No measure shall be set down for discussion without the leave of the House, such leave having been granted the measure shall be read for the first time.

22. No measure, once entered, shall be withdrawn without the leave of the House, ministerial measures are discharged by the resignation of the Ministry.

23. Private measures shall be taken according to their order in the notice book, but a vote of censure or want of confidence shall be the order of the day for the meeting next ensuing after leave has been given to move it.

24. No member shall give notice of more than one measure or question the same night.

25. If a member be not present to introduce a measure or to put a question, standing in his name, any other member may adopt it, and shall then enjoy the same rights of opening and reply as if the notice of such measure or question had been given by him.

26. Not less than three days notice shall be given in writing to the Clerk of the House of an amendment to the orders of the day.

27. Any member desiring a committee shall give one week's notice thereof in writing, at the same time stating the purpose for which he desires to move [illegible].

Procedure of the House.

28. The House shall meet on the second Friday and last Saturday in each month, from the first of November to the

30th April inclusive except when the House shall otherwise order.

29. Fifteen members must be present to form a House.

30. The chair to be taken at 8 o'clock, when quest ons of which notice has been given shall be put to the Ministry.

31. It shall be competent for the House, upon motion to suspend the Standing Orders for a specified time, and the decision shall be taken by division without debate.

32. On the close of the debate on questions or if none be put the House shall proceed to the orders of the day.

33. When the member addressing the House at 10.15. has finished speaking, the Speaker shall call for an adjournment, or the reply upon and termination of the debate.

34. No member (except a mover in reply) shall speak more than once during each reading upon any measure, or upon any question, except on a point of order, explanation, or privilege suddenly arising.

35. The opening speaker on each side of a debate shall be allowed to speak for fifteen minutes, the closing speaker on both sides for ten minutes, and intervening speakers for ten minutes, and the Speaker or Chairman shall call to order any member exceeding these limits.

36. Every bill must be read twice, must pass through committee, and thereafter be read a third time before it becomes an Act of the House.

37. All amendments shall be taken as a negative to a measure, and if carried, shall become the substantive motion, but if an alteration be proposed in any measure it shall be competent for the introducer to adopt such amendment without invalidating his original proposal.

Committee of the Whole House.

38. Matters of business, as distinguished from debate shall be dealt with only in *Committee*.

39. The House shall not resolve itself into Committee before the disposal of the orders of the day, except on the opening night of the session.

Offending Members.

40. Any member violating the Rules of the Society, or conducting himself in a manner obnoxious to other members, may be deprived of his privilege for the evening by the Speaker or Chairman.

41. A repetition of misconduct may by resolution, be referred to the Executive, who shall report to the House in Committee, and two-thirds of the members present may expel or further suspend the offending member.

Strangers.

42. Strangers will be admitted to hear the debates by a member's introductory card.

43. Non-members shall not be permitted to take part in the proceedings of the House.

Divisions.

44. Divisions shall be taken by show of hands. In case of dispute the Speaker's decision shall be final.

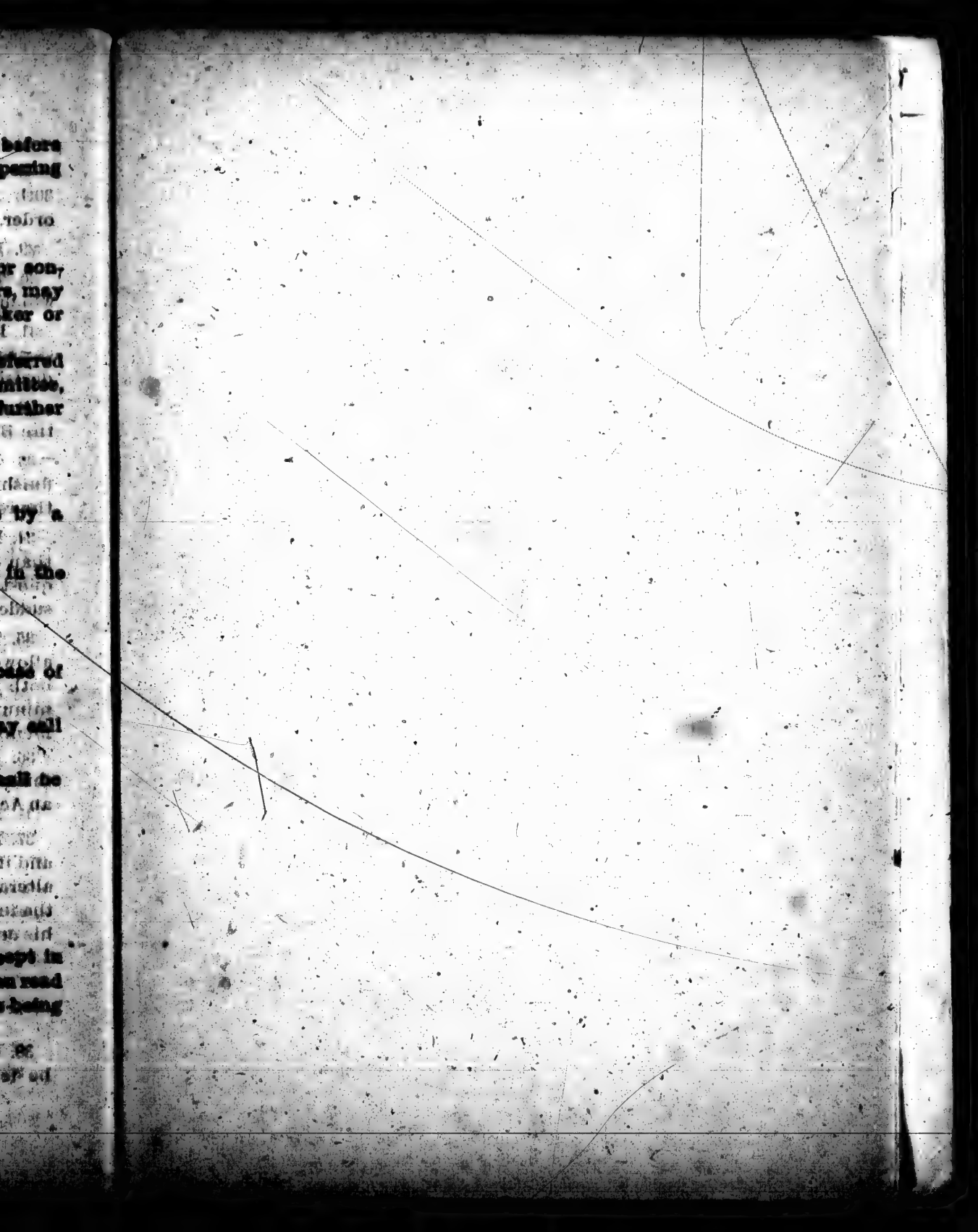
45. If any person's vote is challenged, the Speaker may call upon him to state his name and constituency.

46. Only one division on each question or motion shall be allowed on the following motions on any one evening:—

(1.) The adjournment of the debate.
(2.) The adjournment of the House.
(3.) That the Speaker do leave the chair.

Alteration of Rules.

47. No alteration of these Rules shall be made except in Committee, notice of such proposed alteration having been read with the orders of the day in two meetings previous to its being considered.



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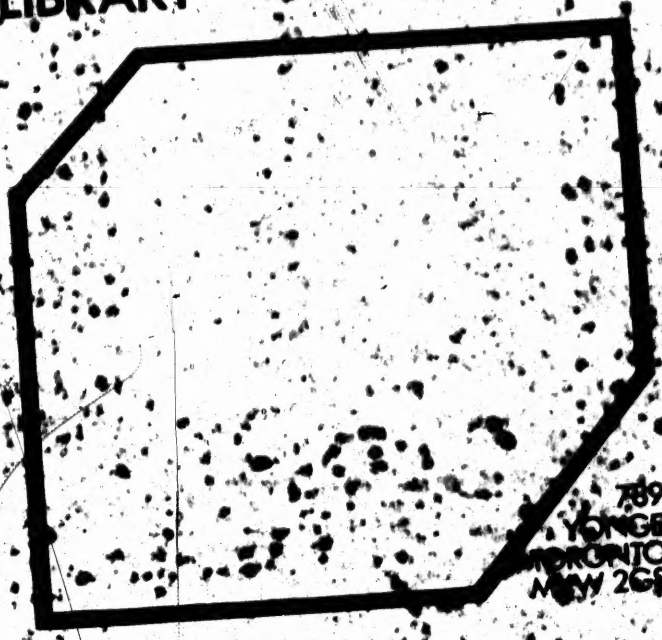

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